

GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION

February 25, 2005

8:30 a.m.

MINUTES

GTSAC MEMBERS

Robert Morris, Chair
Michael Prince
Heather Hockanson
Dwight Sinila
Ron Wilson
F/Lt. Thad Peterson
Jim Culp
Al Byam
Chief David Stamm

REPRESENTING

Office of the Governor
Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)
Linda Scarpetta, Department of Community Health
Department of Education (MDE)
Department of State (DOS)
Capt. Dan Atkinson, Department of State Police
John Friend, Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Local Representative – Michigan Sheriff's Association
Local Representative – Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police

STAFF

Sue Joseph

GTSAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Cherie Mollison
Vacant

Office of Services to the Aging
Local Representative – Road Commission

EMPHASIS AREA TEAMS

Homer Smith
Kathy Farnum

Chair – Alcohol/Drug Impaired Driving
Co-Chair – Decision Making Process and Information Systems

GUESTS

Cindy Agle
Bob Felt
Lance Binoniemi
Jason Hamblen
Robert Lariviere
Sandy Liddle
Richard Miller
Jeff Mitchell
Dave Morena
Dianne Perukel
Matthew Raschke
Anne Readett
Marcia Robert
Sydney Smith
Dave Wallace

REPRESENTING

Michigan Health and Traffic Safety Association
MDOT, Communications Section
Michigan Licensed Beverage Association
OHSP
Tetra Tech
Office of Financial and Insurance Services
AAA Michigan
Van Buren County Road Commission
Federal Highway Administration
OHSP
Washtenaw Area Transportation Study
OHSP
MSP, Project Office
MSP, Criminal Justice Information Center
Prosecuting Attorney Association of Michigan

The meeting was called to order and chaired by Robert Morris. Roll call of GTSAC members and introductions completed.

Public Comment/Announcement Items

➤ Roadwise Review Announcement – Richard Miller/AAA

Richard Miller distributed the Roadwise Review compact disk which is a national product to help seniors determine physical, memory, and vision abilities related to current driving responsibilities. The material will be marketed through AAA for a nominal fee.

➤ Booster Seat Safety – Richard Miller/AAA

Richard Miller distributed the What's Right For Me? coloring book. This book was produced in two formats the coloring story book distributed today as well as the larger story book version.

➤ Michigan Deer Crash Coalition – Richard Miller/AAA

Request was made for anyone that has an interest in the deer crash issue to join the Michigan Deer Crash Coalition.

Approval of GTSAC December 17, 2004 Minutes

The December 17, 2004, minutes were approved. **Motion by Michael Prince to accept the minutes as written. Second Sheriff Al Byam. Motion passed.**

Reports/Updates

➤ Chair Report

Mr. Morris reported a replacement is being sought through the Governor's Appointment Office to replace the departing Ed Tatem. Mr. Morris introduced Dwight Sinila, the new representative for the Department of Education. Mr. Morris reported the state budget is currently with the legislature.

➤ Legislative Report

Report distributed through the listserv as well as copies available at this meeting regarding traffic safety legislative issues. Boost MI Kids coalition has reintroduced the child passenger safety bills that were not acted on during the 2004 Legislative session.

GTSAC Commissioner Update

- **Community Health** – Two pilot sites have been issued grants to implement the booster seat intervention initiative.
- **Education** – Mr. Sinila is responsibilities for the grant administration and pupil transportation within the Department of Education.
- **State** – Staff have been working on the school bus endorsement issue and educating the public on the new license endorsement. Training is currently being conducted to train new instructors for the motorcycle education classes. The motorcycle assessment has been completed. Details will be shared later in the meeting. Secretary Land will be in attendance at the GTSAC Awards Luncheon to present the long term traffic safety awards.
- **State Police** – Advanced Crash Investigation/Reconstruction class will be held to train local officers as well as troopers. The PBT grant process is proceeding which will provide many new PBT's to local police departments and posts.
- **Transportation** – The Engineering Operations Committee adopted a new policy on the use and operation of pedestrian signals. This new policy included audible signals. The effectiveness of countdown pedestrian signals will be evaluated at 17 intersections during this year's pilot phase. Results of the evaluations should be released by June 2006. A policy will be developed based on the results generated from the study on this pilot.
- **OSA** – No report.
- **OHSP** – Child Passenger Safety Week took place February 13-19. OHSP held a news event and car seat give away at a Lansing Headstart classroom as well as a news event at a preschool class in the UP. Jason Hamblen from OHSP will report out on the major findings of the completed Alcohol and Motorcycle assessments later. OHSP will host four assessments this year – Traffic Records, Alcohol, Motorcycle and Child Passenger Safety. This is no small feat as each assessment is a week long with much preparation work for OHSP staff. Anne Readett gave an overview of Summit events for March 1-2, 2005. This year marks the 10th Anniversary of the Traffic Safety Summit. Attendance is anticipated to be over 300.
- **Local Representation** – Chief David Stamm – Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police
MACP Conference was held in Grand Rapids during the first week of February. The conference was very well attended. The development of the MACP Summer session has already begun with the soliciting of ideas for breakout sessions.
- **Local Representation** – Sheriff Al Byam – Michigan Sheriff's Association
Sheriff Byam expressed a concern that the proposed Governor budget cuts will ultimately effect local and traffic safety budgets. Discussions have already been taking place to address the news article regarding General Motors and the MADD National campaigns. MSA and PAAM will team together to support GM and MADD on this issue.
- **Lifetime Achievement Award for Frank Fitzgerald Approval**

Anne Readett, OHSP, presented a proposal to present the Lifetime Achievement Award to Frank Fitzgerald at the GTSAC Traffic Safety Awards Luncheon on March 2, 2005. **Motion by Robert Morris to present the Lifetime Achievement Award to Frank Fitzgerald. Second by Michael Prince. Motion passed.**

Emphasis Area Team Reports

➤ New Team Discussions

The Strategic Highway Safety Plan is a blue print for commission work. Meetings of all emphasis area teams should be developed with a report made to the GTSAC on a regular basis. New team development was discussed at the December GTSAC meeting with an update report due today.

➤ Drivers Ages 24 and Younger

Dianne Perukel, OHSP, distributed a potential member list for this team. The first meeting will be held on April 7, 2005 at which time a chair will be elected and membership finalized. This initial meeting will give all team members information on the direction of the team. An update report will be provided at the April GTSAC meeting.

➤ **Lane Departure**

Jim Culp, MDOT reported this issue has been directed to Engineering Advisory Group. Lane Departure is a broader issue than just run off the road issue. A progress report will be made at the April GTSAC meeting.

➤ **Motorcycle Safety**

Ron Wilson, SOS, distributed a memo for the proposed team. PAAM, MDOT, ABATE of Michigan, and Goldwing have all expressed an interest in being a member of this team. Ron will keep the GTSAC involved and included on this issue. A report on this emphasis area team will be provided at the April GTSAC meeting.

➤ **Other Driver Behavior**

F/Lt. Thad Peterson reported this issue should include aggressive driving, road rage, distracted, as well as drowsy driving issues. A meeting of the proposed group will be held prior to the next GTSAC meeting so an update can be made at the April GTSAC meeting.

➤ **Work Zone Safety**

Jim Culp, MDOT reported that the group currently meeting on this issue within MDOT does not seem to be the right fit for the GTSAC group. The established MDOT group is not necessarily about safety but more on the construction needs side of the issue. A discussion will be held with MSP, OHSP, and MDOT to determine what type of committee would best serve the GTSAC on this issue to include the engineering, safety, and enforcement sides of this issue. An update report will be made at the April GTSAC meeting on the progress of this emphasis area team.

Assessment Reports

➤ **Alcohol Assessment Report Out – Jason Hamblen/OHSP**

The Alcohol Assessment was held January 24-28, 2005. A very comprehensive report was generated from this assessment. A group of representatives from Michigan organizations gave a well-rounded report on alcohol issues for the state. Michigan is a leader with a conviction rate in the high 90th percentile. This is a reflection on the court system in Michigan and the good work they do. OHSP has already initiated a recommendation that was listed in both the alcohol and traffic records assessments.

➤ **Motorcycle Assessment Report Out – Jason Hamblen/OHSP**

The Motorcycle Assessment was held February 7-11, 2005. The recommendations from this assessment are currently being reviewed. OHSP will take these recommendations into consideration as plans are being developed for the motorcycle area in the coming year.

Presentation Item

➤ **Driver Distraction and Patented Solution – Mouhamad Naboulsi/Applied Computer Technologies, Inc.**

Mr. Naboulsi presented information on a hands free distraction device that can be installed and also provided a demonstration.

GTSAC Administrative Items

➤ **Strategic Plan Books – Dave Morena**

Dave distributed the NCHRP Guidance books to the Emphasis Area Team Chairs that were in attendance. Dave Morena would like Chair Morris to give a strong charge to Emphasis Area Team Chairs to create a plan and learn as much as they can about their area. Everyone on the commission, emphasis teams as well as guests should look for measurable improvements to move the issues forward.

Other Business

Adjourn. Next Meeting is April 22, 2005 at Collins Road in the Presentation Room.

Future Meeting Schedule = 4th Friday of every other month

2005 Meeting Schedule

April 22, 2005

June 24, 2005

August 26, 2005

October 28, 2005

December 16, 2005 – Date held until determined the necessity of a December meeting.